

MEMORANDUM FOR: See Distribution

25X1 FROM:

[redacted]  
Chief, Policy Branch/PPS/OS

SUBJECT: Implementation at CIA of NTISSP #2:  
National Policy on Protection of Sensitive,  
but Unclassified Information in Federal  
Government Telecommunications and Automated  
Information Systems

25X1 1. On 8 December 1986, subject national policy was  
25X1 discussed at a meeting attended by [redacted] OIS,  
[redacted] OIT, [redacted] OC, [redacted] OS/ISSD,  
and the undersigned. The purpose of the meeting was to develop  
initial approaches as to how the policy is applicable at CIA  
and what, if any, might be the resource implications. The  
following pertinent points were raised:

° a. There is much less of a problem at CIA than at DoD  
and elsewhere because CIA contributes much less to  
technical data bases. Nonetheless, CIA does contribute to  
NTIS and probably economic and other data bases. OIT and  
OS have collected a listing of unclassified data bases  
which would provide a starting place for identifying those  
which contain sensitive but unclassified information. Once  
such a determination is made, the sensitive information  
should be removed or the system. If removal is not  
possible or practical, the system should be flagged in some  
way so that controls can be applied when and if the  
information is moved to an uncontrolled environment. A  
Headquarters Notice could serve to notify managers of the  
procedures, some of which would then be incorporated into  
the permanent regulatory system.

° b. Much unclassified data is disseminated to or accessed  
by contractors through modems, the electronic interfaces  
through which the data is transmitted. Uncontrolled use of  
modems is inherently dangerous from a security standpoint.

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Work is presently being done, principally by OIT and OC, toward creating a Modem Pool which would provide for better security and would permit an audit trail to be created of queries to CIA unclassified systems. Such an audit trail would help us identify attempts at unauthorized access aimed at sensitive but unclassified information.

° c. Other unclassified information is disseminated from CIA on magnetic media, on paper and through oral presentations. Existing discipline, audit and distribution controls should suffice if we apply the above added procedures and enhance awareness.

d. Guidance similar to the above would have to be prepared for CIA contractors.

2. The approach listed above consists of surveying the data bases, enhancing awareness of the problem and making modest procedural changes to existing or planned mechanisms. This should not prove costly if phased in slowly, appears to have security benefit and is likely to satisfy the basic requirements of NTISSP #2. The group believes that other approaches, such as applying physical and technical security measures, would not be cost effective when measured against the sensitivity of the information to be protected. The key is identifying and removing the sensitive information so that costly systems controls are not necessary.

3. Addressees are requested to review the above and comment as desired with a view toward using the substance of paragraphs 1 and 2 as a report to the DDA. It is requested that you respond by 7 January 1987.

!OS/EO/PPS/  (23 Dec. 86)!

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